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REPORT NO. [redacted]

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COUNTRY Poland 50X1

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SUBJECT The Niechorze Naval Observation Point

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

DATE OF INF[redacted]

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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SOURCE [redacted]

1. The Naval Observation Point in Niechorze (N 54-06, E 15-04) was subordinate to the Third Command of Observation and Communications (Komenda 3-go Odcinka Obserwacji i Lacznosci) located in Kolobrzeg (N 54-11, E 15-35). The Niechorze Naval Observation Point was accommodated in a new building (Overlay, Pt. #1) located about one kilometer west of the village of Niechorze (Overlay, Pt. 2). Niechorze had a population of about 1,000. The building for the observation point was located on the cliff close to the Baltic Sea coast.

2. The observation point building was built after 1948. It was of the same type as the other observation point buildings located in Dziwnow, (N 54-02 E 14-46), Mrzezyno (N 54-09, E 15-18), Gaski (N 54-14, E 15-53), and the one near Darlowo. All these buildings were of one design; i.e., a four-story, square, tower-like brick structure. I have never seen any other than this type tower structure.

3. The first two stories measured 10 to 12 m. on the south and north sides and 8 to 10 m., on the east and west sides. These first two stories contained living quarters for the men as well as orderly and parts rooms. The third and smaller story measured four to five meters by four to five meters. This story contained the radio station and the telephone exchange. The top story measured two by two meters and had only one room that housed the signal station. The basement contained just one room where the

motor-generator (agregat) and the battery (akumulator) were placed.

4. A 30 to 40 m. long tunnel led in an easterly direction from the basement toward an underground pen or bunker with internal dimensions of about eight by five by two meters. This was just one room. The tunnel could be passed through in an upright position. The walls and ceiling of the tunnel and pen were of reenforced concrete. I do not know how thick they were. There was a layer of about 10 cm. of earth over tunnel and pen.

5. The observation point was operated exclusively by Polish Naval personnel. Although the personnel strength of every observation point had been fixed at about 35, the complement of the Niechorze station numbered about 15. The T/O called for an ensign as commanding officer. Instead, however, a chief petty officer, who was a signal specialist, acted as commanding officer. About three petty officers and eleven sailors were under his command. The enlisted personnel included five signalmen, four radiomen, three telephone repairmen, one electrician, and one cook. Except for the signalmen, all personnel stationed at the Point were exchanged with other observation point centers. They were transferred once or twice a year. Radiomen were on watch for a period of twenty-four hours -- eight hours on and eight off.

6. The radio equipment of the observation point was as follows:

   a. RSBF (Radio Stacja Samolotu Bombowego). This was a transmitter-receiver of Soviet origin. It was enclosed in two separate sections; one section for the transmitter and one section for the receiver. It had a short wave, medium wave, long wave, and a so-called "reserve wave." The reserve wave was supposed to have been effective when other waves failed in very bad weather. The RSBF transmitted and received by both key and microphone. It had three converters (przytwornicza). (One was a small type used with the transmitter which converted 24 v. from the battery for charging (akumulator) into 220 v. (D. C.). The two larger converters (przytwornicza) together supplied 1,500 to the receiver. 50X1 had three or four tubes, while the receiver had 7 or 12 tubes. 50X1 diagram or the tubes. The tubes were secret and enlisted men were not supposed to know the type tube used. 50X1 the range of the RSBF at about 150 km. 50X1 wave lengths (faly metry) were used, as these were changed daily. The daily schedule was received via RSBF from Kolobrzeg, Headquarters of the Third Command. The antenna array for the RSBF set consisted of two 8 to 10 m. wood masts supporting one single wire T-type antenna, the masts were erected about 50 m. apart and about four meters off the building.

   b. A7A, Soviet microphone-type receiver transmitter. This was an old type apparatus that was used only to communicate with coastal ships in very good weather. Even then the battery had to be well charged. This was an ultra short wave set.

   c. AGA - This was a Polish non-military radio set that was used for the entertainment of the crew. Foreign broadcasts were never listened to on this set.

7. The Central Telephone Exchange (Centrala Telefoniczna), located on the third floor, contained the following equipment:

   a. A telephone switchboard which had only 10 plug holes or connecting outlets which were numbered from one to ten. All that was necessary was to insert the contact plug into one of the holes and the connection was made. Any number from

one to ten was a telephone number. All ten numbers were used.

b. On the telephones in use in this building there was one conventional field telephone in the signal tower for use by the signalmen. There were two field telephones near the central switchboard and one telephone in the quarters of the Commanding Officer -- a Chief Petty Officer who was a radio specialist. The switchboard had direct lines to the Communications Center in Kolobrzeg, to the Kolobrzeg Naval Observation and Communications Point, and with Polish Army Border Guards (Wojsko Ochrony Pogranicza--WOP) units. Telephone lines were strung from utility poles, although in outlying areas, underground telephone lines were used. Telephone communications were used for messages that were not secret. The biggest telephone problem was maintenance of telephone lines. The telephone repairmen were constantly busy repairing defective lines which, [redacted] was due to the lines' age and inferior quality. 50X1

8. The Signal Station /Sketch, Pt. 1e/ located in the tower of the building accommodated five signalmen who watched coastal and sea areas. Their equipment consisted of the following:

a. One lighthouse searchlight (Vartalamp) between 60 and 100 w. No large searchlights were available.

b. Hand operated Morse Lamps. [redacted] there were but they all had a white light, a lens about four inches in diameter, and a handle which resembled that of an automatic pistol. 50X1

c. Hand operated meteorological instruments. Among others, there were instruments for measuring wind velocity and direction.

d. A portable instrument for measuring the course and speed of a ship.

e. Hand operated signal rockets. Of the various colored rockets 50X1
available, [redacted] know of the red and yellow rockets. They 50X1
were never used and [redacted] under what circumstances these rockets were to be used.

f. International and national signal flags.

g. Semaphore flags.

The signalmen maintained a 24-hour watch. Each had to be on watch for a period of four hours. On top of the building a three meter high steel signal mast was erected with a two meter long yard arm, about 2½ m. from the base. It was topped by a blue lamp used for Morse light signals. Several pulleys with signal ropes for flag signalling were fastened to the yardarm.

9. Three 60 amp-hour automatic battery chargers (Automatyczny Ladownik Akumulatorow) supplied the electric power. These were referred to as 4NKN-60's which meant four cells of iron-nickel, 60 amp hours. The batteries were charged by an electric power generator (agregat) driven by an electric motor. The generator held in reserve was driven by a gasoline engine in case of power failure. The generator was known as Type GS-1000, which meant it was a self-generating generator (generator samowzbudne) of 1,000 w. strength.

10. Although orders concerning the mission of the observation point were 50X1
[redacted]: All Polish naval vessels at sea were reported by the Gdynia Naval Headquarters to the Kolobrzeg Naval District Command. In this connection [redacted] must have been sent to all other District Commands

as well. Kolobrzeg passed this information on to the subordinate observation points via the RSBF. In response thereto, every observation point reported all sighted Polish Naval vessels to the Kolobrzeg Command and to the observation point past which the ships would next pass. Only those merchantmen and all other non-Polish naval vessels were reported to the Kolobrzeg District Command and the observation point they intended to pass. The passage of these non-Polish vessels was not first sent out by the Kolobrzeg Station as in the case of Polish naval vessels.

11. The following operations were noticed by me: Orders were only received from the Kolobrzeg Naval Command. If these orders were classified as secret they were received via telecon. Radio messages were exchanged with the Kolobrzeg Communications Center, other observation points, and Polish Naval vessels at sea. Usually these radio messages were of a non-classified nature and [redacted] were used mainly for practice exercises. Telephone connections could also be established to civilian numbers via postal lines and to Army Border Guards via direct lines. Although the signal personnel had received special ship identification training they made no efforts to establish a ship's character. 50X1

12. As to any shortages that might have existed, [redacted] radio tubes were in very short supply. Although during my service at this station [redacted] of the replacement of a defective radio tube, [redacted] took at least six months to receive radio tubes out of the main supply office in Gdynia. Although we had radio tubes in stock, [redacted] there were, for [redacted] allowed to know the type of tube used. Copper wire for winding transformers was in very short supply. If a transformer were sent to the Oksywie office for rewinding, one could count on at least a six-month wait because of the shortage of copper wire and metal in general. 50X1 50X1 50X1 50X1 50X1

/Overlay to AMS Series M841, Sheet 1956, Karnitz, scale 1:25,000 and Rough Layout and Situation Sketches of the Niechorze Naval Observation Point/

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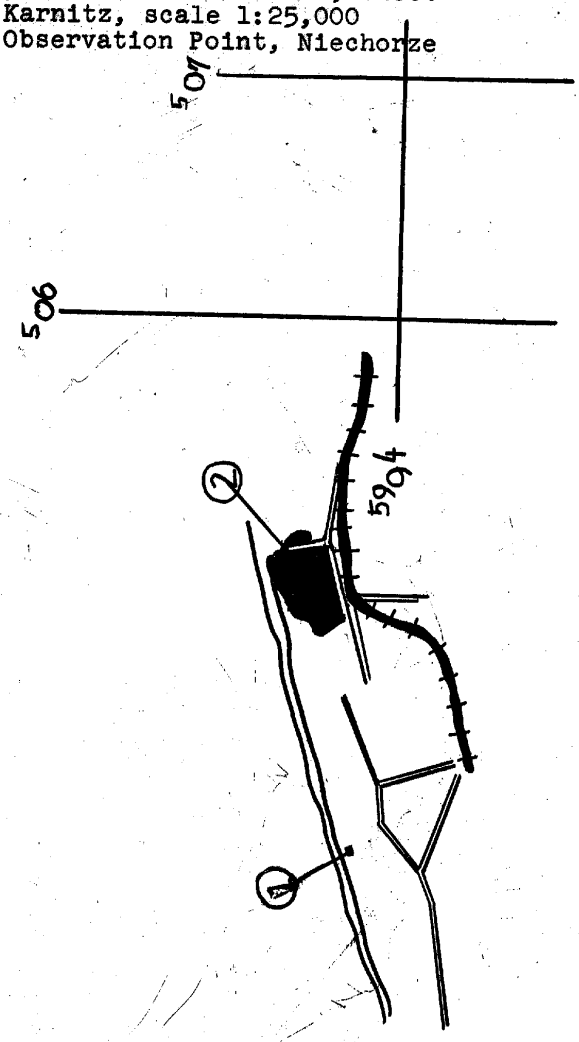
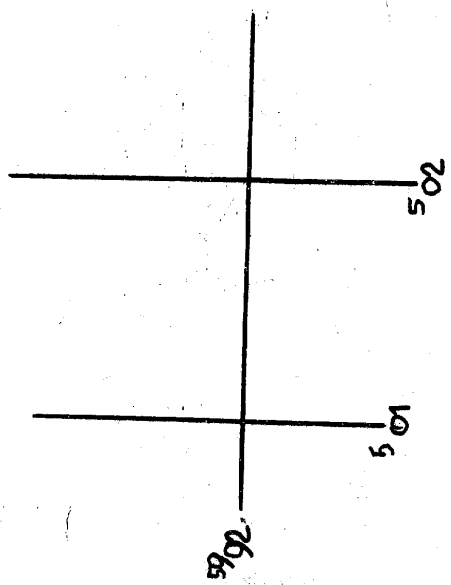
Overlay to AMS Series M 841, sheet 1956, Karnitz, scale 1:25,000
Naval Observation Point, Niechorze



LEGEND

1. Observation Point
2. Niechorze



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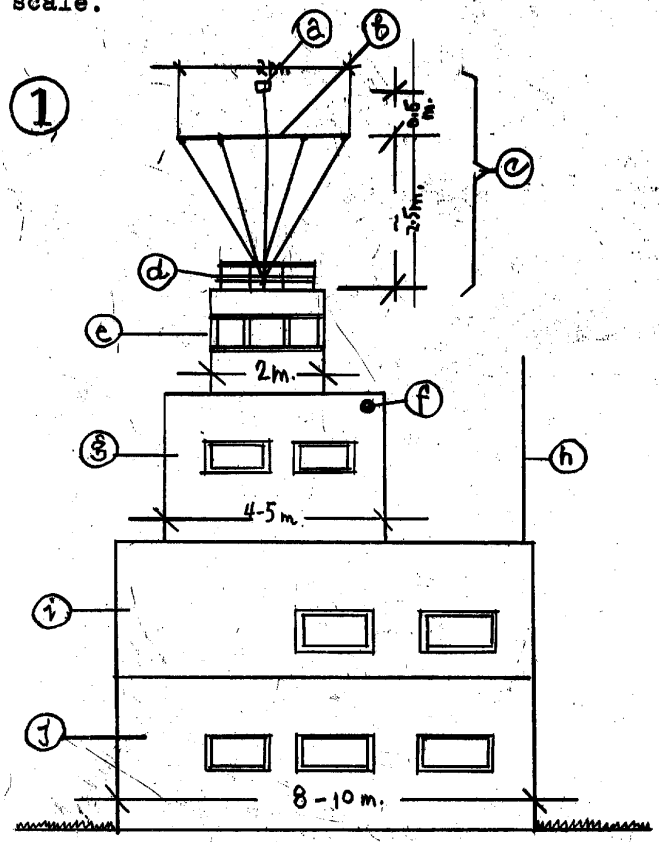
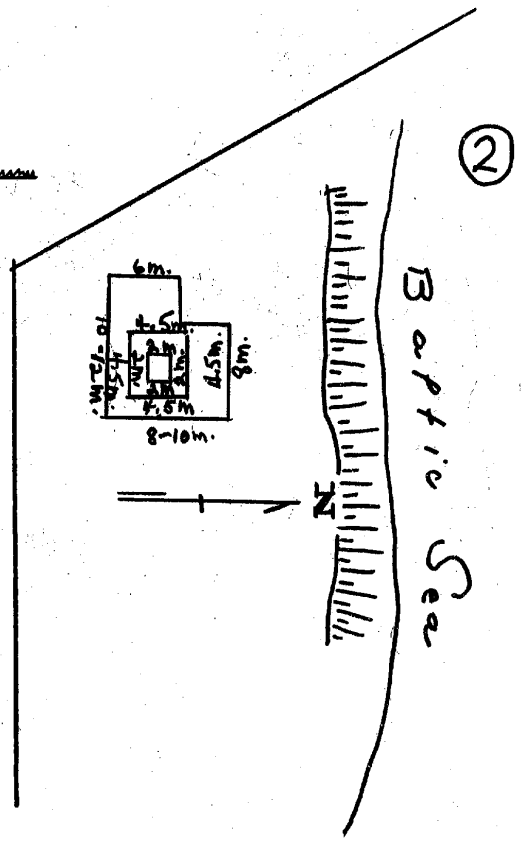
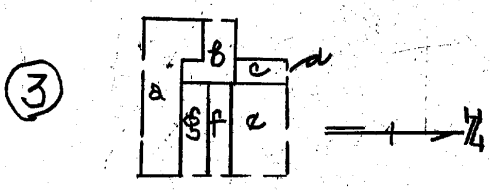
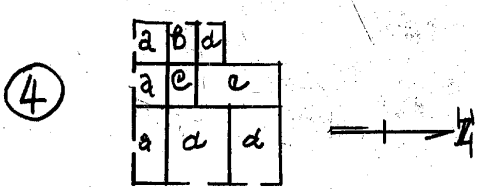
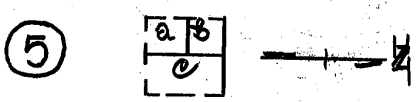
Naval Observation Point, Niechorze. Rough layout and situation sketches, not to scale.











Legend to Rough Layout and Situation Sketches, not to scale.

1. View from the east of the Observation Point building.
   a. Blue lamp for Morse light-signals.
   b. Yardarm with pulleys and signal ropes.
   c. Signal mast.
   d. Little iron rail.
   e. 4th floor: signal station.
   f. Porcelain insulator of antenna lead-in.
   g. 3rd floor: radio station, telephone exchange, and battery room.
   h. Rod antenna of ultra short wave telephony set.
   i. 2nd floor: billets.
   j. 1st floor: miscellaneous rooms.
2. Sketch demonstrating the exact situation of the building in connection with the cliff and the Baltic.
3. First floor.
   a. Meeting and dining room
   b. Kitchen
   c. Hallway and staircase
   d. Entrance
   e. Unused room
   f. Storage for provisions
   g. Storage for spare parts
4. Second Floor
   a. Sailors' quarters
   b. Petty officers' quarters
   c. Orderly room
   d. Commanding officer's quarters and office
   e. Hallway and staircase
5. Third Floor
   a. Telephone exchange
   b. Storage battery room; measuring instruments of radio station.
   c. Radio Station.